

this week

Sunday, January 15

8:30 a.m. Worship
 9:00-9:30 a.m. Library Open
 9:00 a.m. Early Sunday Bible Study Group
 9:40 a.m. Sunday Bible Study
 10:50 a.m. Worship
 12:00-12:30 p.m. Library Open
 12:15 p.m. Stewardship Committee Mtg.
 2:00 p.m. Students to YEC
 4:00 p.m. Mixed Ensemble
 4:30 p.m. Women's Ministry Leadership Mtg.
 5:00 p.m. Ladies Ensemble
 6:00 p.m. January Bible Study-Malachi,
 Bible Drill & Bible Skills
 7:00 p.m. Advisory Council

Monday, January 16

9:00 a.m. Precept *Spiritual Gifts*
 1:30 p.m. GriefShare, Ladies Handbells
 6:30 p.m. GriefShare, Adult Handbells
 7:00 p.m. Precept *Spiritual Gifts*

Tuesday, January 17

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program
 6:15 p.m. GROW Blitz - All Teams

Wednesday, January 18

9:00 a.m. ELP Planning Meeting, Kinder Camp
 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Library Open
 4:15 p.m. Children's Handbells
 4:30 p.m. Children's Chimes
 4:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
 5:30 p.m. Children's Choir, Youth Choir, Ladies
Sermon on the Mount
 5:45 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer
 5:45-6:45 p.m. Library Open
 6:20 p.m. Student Worship
 6:30 p.m. GA, RA, Mission Friends
 6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir
 7:30 p.m. Orchestra, Boys Basketball,
 Recreation Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 19

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program,
 Precept *Isaiah Part 1*
 10:00 a.m. Adult Game Day
 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball, Precept *Isaiah Part 1*

Friday, January 20

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program

Saturday, January 21

WEDNESDAY DINNER

January 18, 2017

*Poppyseed chicken, baby roasted potatoes,
 vegetable, roll, salad, dessert and beverage.*

Adults \$5, children \$3.50, family max \$18.

Please call the church office, 918-299-0904 to
 make your reservations by Tuesday at noon.

southtulsa
 BAPTIST CHURCH

10310 South Sheridan Road | Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133
 918.299.0904 | southtulsa.org

Sharing the
 Good News about
 Jesus in our
 community and
 around the world

more

LADIES BIBLE STUDY THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT - A video driven, 9-week course by Jen Wilkin begins Wednesday, January 18, from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. in rooms D165-166. Please contact Debby Arnold, 918-639-5777 or darnold@capmgco.com.

BIBLE ART JOURNALING WORKSHOP - Thursday, January 26, 6:30-8:30 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. Contact Denise Curtiss for more information.

GRIEFSHARE - New session begins January 16, groups meet at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. on Mondays in the South Tulsa Conference Room.

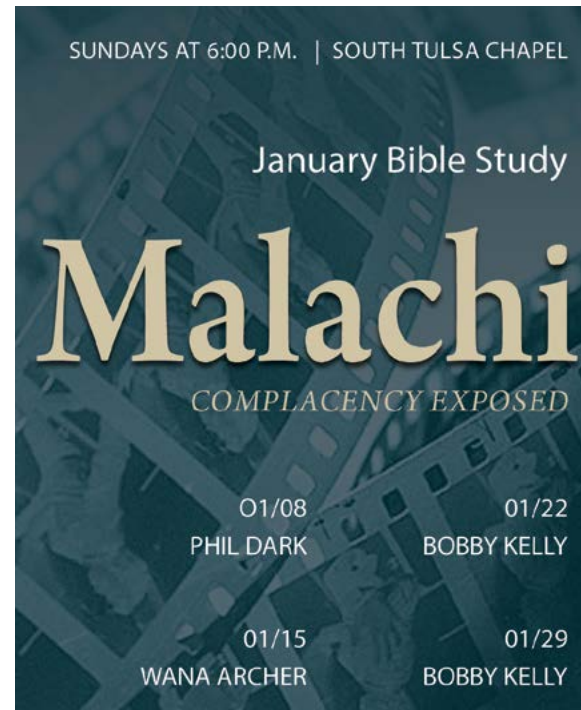
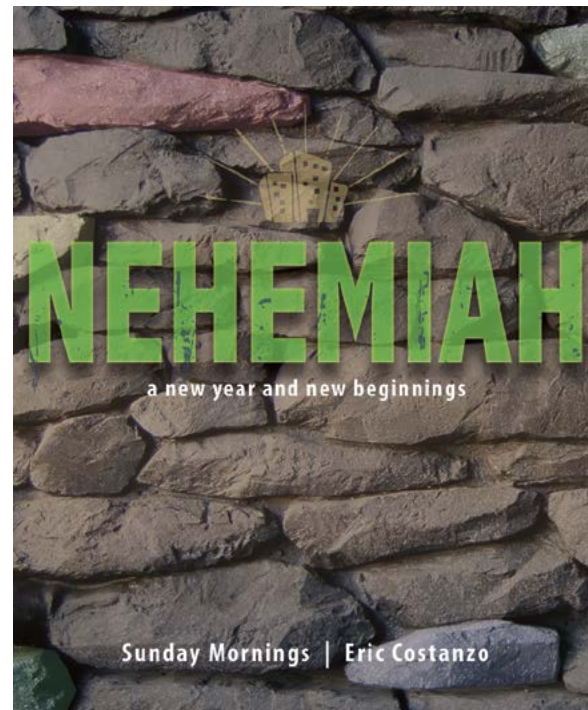
PRECEPT: ISAIAH PART 2 - Thursdays beginning January 26, at 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. Workbooks \$20.50. Please complete lesson one prior to first class. Contact Patrick Lovelace at patricklovelace@cox.net, 918-286-3226 for more information or to enroll.

GROW BLITZ: JANUARY 17 - All teams will meet at 6:15 p.m. as GROW Outreach resumes.

AMAZON SMILE - Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support South Tulsa Baptist Church every time you shop. Log in to Amazon at smile.amazon.com and choose South Tulsa as your charity. You will find the exact same prices as always except that Amazon will donate a portion of your sale to our church.

GIRLS IN ACTION - GA continues to collect money for Lottie Moon with our January offering contest that concludes on the 25th. The winning class will be first in line for a chocolate fountain treat.

(For more information about upcoming events please go to southtulsa.org)



the channel

01.15.17

volume XXVII, no. 2
 southtulsa.org



8:30AM Worship

Join Us@SouthTulsa

*Everlasting God
 Whom Shall I Fear (Psalm 27)*

Welcome Dru Finley

*My Story
 In Christ Alone*

Greeting One Another

Scripture Reading Andrew Spinner

Message Nehemiah 2:11-20

Response My Jesus I Love Thee

New Commitments - New Members

Blessing

10:50AM Worship

Baptism Marilyn White, Josiah Royce

*You're Worthy of My Praise
 Worthy of Worship*

Prayer and Welcome

*Like a River Glorious
 Lord I Need You*

Choral Worship Cornerstone Tina Gross, solo

Greeting One Another

Blessed Be the Name of the Lord

Scripture Reading Andrew Spinner

Message Nehemiah 2:11-20

Response There Is a Fountain

Worship in Giving I Give You My Heart

New Commitments - New Members

Blessing

A Christian Nation?

by Dr. Eric Costanzo

I hear people say all the time, we need to “win back” our nation for Christ. While I understand the sentiment, I must ask, “Were we ever a Christian nation to begin with?”

In no way do I mean to question our American heritage of faith in Christ. Most of our nation’s founders were committed followers of Jesus. George Washington, for example, our first and among my top three favorite leaders of history, was a man of documented prayer and outspoken faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Without a doubt, our nation has been blessed with deep generational faith in Jesus, and that faith helped shaped much of who we are. My question is more about the definition of “Christian nation.” To me, that is a really hard thing to judge. Until the middle of last century, nearly every person in our country was a nominal Christian - i.e. a Christian in name. Does that speak to true commitment, however?

A person can be a nominal Christian, and participate in the Christian religion, and miss Christ altogether. In the 1950s, Dietrich Bonhoeffer spoke of “religionless Christianity.” This idea, by the way, has been widely misinterpreted by religious pluralists. Bonhoeffer was not proposing blind tolerance or implausible religious coexistence. Nor was he disparaging Christianity as a religion. Instead, he was separating authentic Christianity from its purely nominal form as a religion - refusing to treat the Christian faith like a box checked on a survey.

What does all of this have to do with Nehemiah? Nehemiah’s goal in returning to Jerusalem was not simply to rebuild structures or to repair religious facades. He felt called and compelled to see true worship of God restored. This meant more than reclaiming a religion in name only. This meant calling people into authentic obedience to God with their entire lives.

The next time we feel compelled to “win back” our nation for Christ, may we not be content with the nominal, but ask God to call people to genuine faith once again. “The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding...” (Nehemiah 2:20).

Stephen Minister Training

Are you interested in a ministry where you can use your spiritual gifts of mercy, encouragement and faith? If so, then Stephen Ministry might be just the spot for you! Stephen Ministry is our congregation’s one-to-one care giving ministry. Stephen Ministers go through 50 hours of training to provide distinctively Christian care to those in need. They use both word and deeds to express Christ’s care for others—listening and comforting, calling on the training they have received and employing the tools of faith. If this fits your personal goals for ministry, consider becoming a Stephen Minister. South Tulsa’s Stephen Ministry will be offering Training Classes for Stephen Ministers in late February. You will be hearing more details about this in the upcoming weeks. If you are already know you are interested in this training opportunity, please contact Phyllis Turner at 918-622-8235.

Malachi

Our January Bible study on Malachi continues tonight in the Chapel at 6:00 p.m. Join us tonight as our top-notch “guest” teachers lead us through this incredible book together. Wana Archer will be teaching tonight; Bobby Kelly will teach January 22 and 29th.



Thinking Christian

by Dru Finley

It’s Not How You Start, It’s How You Finish!
On Monday, January 9, 2017 many people tuned in to watch the national championship football game which is being declared an instant classic. Clemson was down 14 points by the start of the second quarter, and it didn’t look as if there was much hope for the Tigers. But, there is one truth that rings true for a football team as well as a follower of Christ, it’s not how you start that matters, it’s how you finish!

Life is full of adversity no matter who you are, and we have an enemy that wants to see us fail. But as Christians, we must keep in mind that who we live for is worthy for us to give our all for His name. This life is a race, it is a battle, and we must live it with purpose and fortitude. We must live to win it at all costs, against all odds for we represent the name of our great King and Savior!

Winston Churchill famously gave a speech where he said, “Never give in. Never give in. Never, never, never, never—in nothing, great or small, large or petty—never give in, except to convictions of honor and good sense. Never yield to force. Never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy.” We as followers of Christ must make it our purpose to never give in to anything that would lead us away from following Christ. As you live your life remember this great advice, “Stay true to Jesus! Make sure that you keep your heart close to Jesus every day. It’s a long way from here to where you’re going to go, and Satan’s in no hurry to get you.” No matter the odds, no matter the past failures always remember that it’s not how you start that matters it’s how you finish!

(Read Dru’s full article at southtulsa.org or watch the video under the resources tab.)

Wilkinson Chili Lunch

Join us for our Wilkinson fund raiser! Chili and ice cream lunch Sunday, January 22 after the 10:50 a.m. service in the Fellowship Hall. All proceeds go to offset the overwhelming cost of Katie Wilkinson’s lung transplant.

Welcome New Member



Marilyn White, by baptism

“Nehemiah Wall” of Food *for the Ministry Center*

Please join us throughout the months of January and February as we collect non-refrigerated foods (canned goods, boxed goods, jarred goods, etc.) to build our wall for families served by our Ministry Center as we study Nehemiah on Sunday mornings. Make sure and walk down the Jesus hallway each week to see our building progress!

Missions Moment

Guatemala

The children had a Bible times style Christmas! Many gave their best gift to the King... their hearts! Also, they all received a gift and a special Christmas meal! For the majority, this was the only Christmas gift they received! God is good!



Refugee and International Ministry Meeting

Pastor Eric will update on opportunities to minister to international and refugee families here in South Tulsa next Sunday evening, January 22 at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel. We will discuss lots of great things that have been happening and community connections that are developing with Jenks Public Schools and others. Please pray about joining us!

last week

GIVING

Ministry Financial Plan	2,034,048
Actual MFP Receipts	1,967,185
General Fund	53,190
Building Fund	1,135
Lottie Moon to date	73,969

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Adults	546
Youth	101
Children	86
Preschool	82
Unclassified	10
Total	825

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES

Adult, Youth, Precept

THE MINISTRY CENTER

Volunteers	10
People Helped	121
Salvations	1

WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE

LIVE Views	4,774
<i>(U.S. 2,884; International 1,890)</i>	
Retirement Center Ministry	147
<i>(12 locations)</i>	
ON DEMAND Views	1,834
<i>(U.S. 1,108; International 726)</i>	

MINISTRY STAFF

Dr. Eric Costanzo, <i>Pastor</i> eric@southtulsa.org	Debbie Steen, <i>Minister to Families with Preschoolers</i> debbie@southtulsa.org
Philip Stephens, <i>Minister of Music</i> philip@southtulsa.org	Mary Ann Stephens, <i>Music Ministry Associate</i> maryann@southtulsa.org
Dave Bender, <i>Minister of Administration & Media</i> dave@southtulsa.org	Karen Pirtle, <i>Student Ministry Associate</i> karen@southtulsa.org
Dru Finley, <i>Minister of Discipleship & Development</i> dru@southtulsa.org	Alice Bones, <i>Director of The Ministry Center</i> alice@ministry-center.org
Matt Wolff, <i>Minister to Families with Students</i> matt@southtulsa.org	ON THE COVER Students enjoy new coffee house.
Connie Faurot, <i>Minister to Families with Children</i> connie@southtulsa.org	